VI.5.1 INTRODUCTION TO THE OPERATIONAL FORECAST PROGRAM (FCST)

The Operational Forecast Program (FCST) is used to process observed and predicted data and to use these processed data in various hydrologic and hydraulic models to generate river forecasts.

Program FCST generates the forecasts using the parametric information entered using programs described in Chapter VI.3 [Hyperlink] and the data entered using the programs described in Chapter VI.4 [Hyperlink].

Program FCST consists of a number of processes that are linked together through a user interface called the Hydrologic Command Language (HCL). In HCL terminology the processes linked to it are referred to as Functions. HCL allows the user to specify which Functions are used, the order in which they are used and what options (Techniques in HCL terminology) are used for each Function. The same Function can be used several times within a single run. The user has control on what computations are included in each execution of the program FCST.

Section VI.2.3 [Hyperlink] contains guidelines for executing program FCST.

Section VI.5.2 [Hyperlink] contains an overview of HCL as well as description of each of the HCL commands.

Section VI.5.3 [Hyperlink] contains an overview of the program FCST and descriptions of each of the Functions and Techniques that are available.